also been given export quotas and have also been buying cotton.

(iv) The ceiling of export of cotton yarn of counts below 41s in 1996 was increased from 80 million kgs. to 110 million kgs. For the year 1997, the ceiling for export of cotton yarn below counts 41s has been further enhanced to 120 million kgs.

(v) Cotton has been removed from Selective Credit Control.

(vi) There are no on stock-limits for cotton.

(vii) In the Central Budget proposals for 1997-98, it has been proposed to repeal Ginning and Pressing Factories Act of 1925 and the Cotton Control Order of 1986 will be invoked only in well defined emergency situation. Domestic futures trading would be resumed in respect of ginned and baled cotton.

Production of Pulses

3654. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for production of pulses for the current year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the production of pulses during the current year is expected to be lower and is not likely to achieve the target; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) For 1996-97 the target for production of pulses was fixed at 15.00 million tonnes, against which a production of about 14.02 million tonnes is estimated. For the current year (1997-98) the Planning Commission has intimated a production target of 14.50 million tonnes.

(c) The reasons for the low production of pulses are that the pulses are generally grown under rainfed conditions in less productive marginal lands where the crop often suffers due to moisture stress conditions. Pulses are also more prone to damage by the insect-pests cultivated under low input use and poor management practices which affect the productivity. Besides, there is no major genetic break through in pulses.

Quantity of Seeds required for the North-East Region

3655. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of breed seeds, foundation and certified seeds required for the North-East region, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of different categories of seeds produced by the North-East region, State-wise; and

(c) the total quantity of different categories of seeds supplied by Government through the producers to the North-Eastern States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the concerned States and will be laid down on the table of the House.

Starting of P. G. Classes in Central Agricultural University, Imphal

3656. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for opening Post-graduate classes in Social Sciences, Entomology, Extension Education, Agricultural Economics, Animal Husbandry, Agricultural Engineering in the Central Agricultural University, Imphal;